

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A sealed container, which comprises

a container with an end being closed and the other end being open, comprising a thermoplastic resin, and

a stopper being detachable and capable of sealing the open end of the container, the stopper having a head portion capable of being grasped, a leg portion A being extended downward from the head portion, being along an internal wall surface of the open end of the container, and being capable of exerting a fitting force to the internal wall surface, and a leg portion B being extended downward from the head portion, being along an external wall surface of the open end of the container, and being capable of exerting a fitting force to the external wall surface, and

at least a portion of the leg portion B of the stopper, ~~which contacts~~ ~~contacting with~~ the container, ~~has a deflection temperature, under a load of 0.45 MPa or 0.46 MPa, of 60°C or more,~~ and

at least a portion of the container, ~~which contacts~~ ~~contacting with~~ the leg portion A of the stopper, ~~has having a deflection temperature, under a load of 0.45 MPa or 0.46 MPa, load of 60°C or more under a load of 0.45 MPa or 0.46 MPa.~~

2. (currently amended): A sealed container, which comprises

a container with an end being closed and the other end being open, comprising a thermoplastic resin, and

a stopper being detachable and capable of sealing the open end of the container,

the stopper having a head portion capable of being grasped, a leg portion A being extended downward from the head portion, being along an internal wall surface of the open end of the container, and being capable of exerting a fitting force to the internal wall surface, and a leg portion B being extended downward from the head portion, being along an external wall surface of the open end of the container, and being capable of exerting a fitting force to the external wall surface, and

a deflection temperature, under a load of 0.45 MPa or 0.46 MPa, under load of at least a portion of the leg portion B of the stopper, which contacts~~contacting with the container, under a load of 0.45 MPa or 0.46 MPa,~~ is higher than a deflection temperature, under a load of 0.45 MPa or 0.46 MPa, under load of at least a portion of the container, which contacts~~contacting with the leg portion A of the stopper under a load of 0.45 MPa or 0.46 MPa.~~

3. (original): The sealed container according to claim 2,

wherein a distance of the leg portion B of the stopper contacting with the external wall surface of the container is shorter than a distance of the leg portion A of the stopper contacting with the internal wall surface of the container in the longitudinal direction of the container.

4. (previously presented): The sealed container according to claim 2,

wherein a position of the fitting force exerted between the leg portion A of the stopper and the internal wall surface of the container being greatest and a position of the fitting force exerted between the leg portion B of the stopper and the external wall surface of the container being greatest are located at different positions in the longitudinal direction of the container.

5. (previously presented): The sealed container according to claim 2,

wherein the leg portion A of the stopper has a surface layer comprising a thermoplastic elastomer or a thermosetting elastomer at least at a portion contacting with the internal wall surface of the container.

6. (previously presented): The sealed container according to claim 2,

wherein the stopper has a needle pipe insertable portion comprising a thermoplastic elastomer or a thermosetting elastomer.

7. (currently amended): A vacuum specimen-sampling container, comprising:

~~which comprises a~~ the sealed container according to claim 1, the inside thereof being in a reduced atmospheric pressure state.

8. (previously presented): The sealed container according to claim 3,

wherein a position of the fitting force exerted between the leg portion A of the stopper and the internal wall surface of the container being greatest and a position of the fitting force

exerted between the leg portion B of the stopper and the external wall surface of the container being greatest are located at different positions in the longitudinal direction of the container.

9. (previously presented): The sealed container according to claim 3,
wherein the leg portion A of the stopper has a surface layer comprising a thermoplastic elastomer or a thermosetting elastomer at least at a portion contacting with the internal wall surface of the container.

10. (previously presented): The sealed container according to claim 4,
wherein the leg portion A of the stopper has a surface layer comprising a thermoplastic elastomer or a thermosetting elastomer at least at a portion contacting with the internal wall surface of the container.

11. (previously presented): The sealed container according to claim 3,
wherein the stopper has a needle pipe insertable portion comprising a thermoplastic elastomer or a thermosetting elastomer.

12. (previously presented): The sealed container according to claim 4,
wherein the stopper has a needle pipe insertable portion comprising a thermoplastic elastomer or a thermosetting elastomer.

13. (previously presented): The sealed container according to claim 5,

wherein the stopper has a needle pipe insertable portion comprising a thermoplastic elastomer or a thermosetting elastomer.

14. (currently amended): A vacuum specimen-sampling container, comprising:
~~which comprises a the~~ sealed container according to claim 2, the inside thereof being in a reduced atmospheric pressure state.

15. (currently amended): A vacuum specimen-sampling container, comprising:
~~which comprises a the~~ sealed container according to claim 3, the inside thereof being in a reduced atmospheric pressure state.

16. (currently amended): A vacuum specimen-sampling container, comprising:
~~which comprises a the~~ sealed container according to claim 4, the inside thereof being in a reduced atmospheric pressure state.

17. (currently amended): A vacuum specimen-sampling container, comprising:
~~which comprises a the~~ sealed container according to claim 5, the inside thereof being in a reduced atmospheric pressure state.

18. (currently amended): A vacuum specimen-sampling container, comprising:
~~which comprises a the~~ sealed container according to claim 6, the inside thereof being in a reduced atmospheric pressure state.

19. (new): The sealed container according to claim 2, wherein the deflection temperature, under a load of 0.45 MPa or 0.46 MPa, of the at least the portion of the leg portion B of the stopper, which contacts the container, is 60°C or more, and

the deflection temperature, under a load of 0.45 MPa or 0.46 MPa, of the at least the portion of the container, which contacts the leg portion A of the stopper, is 60°C or more.